MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*) : I wish to know the principle by which this classification is effected; is it by consideration of caste, creed or any such thing?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): This classification is adopted for a long time past by the High Court. The principle rests with the High Court and therefore I cannot say anything definite.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*) : Am I to understand that the information is not available at present?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No, not at present.

Sale of Liquor Shops during 1100 and 1101.

*231. **MR. K. I. JOSEPH** (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of toddy and arrack shops in the State that have been sold in auction in 1101 and also at the previous sale;

(*b*) the number of shops that have been given to contractors by means of private negotiation in 1101 and also on the previous occasion;

(*c*) the total amount of revenue received by the Government under each of these items in 1100 and the amounts that are estimated to be realised in 1102;

(*d*) the number of arrack and toddy shops in the Minachil taluk in 1101 and the number the Government propose to have for the year 1102;

(*e*) whether the Excise Commissioner has received representations from the people of Minachil asking for the abolition of certain shops and for the change of the locality of a few others;

(*f*) whether the Excise Commissioner has taken any action in the matter, and, if not, what action he proposes to take;

(*g*) the number of shops in Minachil for which bidders were not forthcoming at the time of the public auction in 1101 and the reasons, if any, for the same;

(*h*) the number of shops that have been subsequently given over to contractors on private negotiation;

(*i*) whether the subordinate officers of the Excise Department were trying their best to influence persons to come forward to conduct those shops for which there were no bidders at the time of public auction; and

(*j*) whether such sort of propaganda work to get shop contractors forms part of the legitimate duties of such officers?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) and (*b*) In 1101, 438 arrack shops and 1,188 toddy shops were sold in auction and 117 arrack shops and 66 toddy shops were sold by private negotiation. Information regarding the number of shops so sold on the previous occasion is not available at present.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. T. P. Ramasubba Aiyar.]

(*c*) For 1100, the rentals for arrack shops and toddy shops were Rs. 4,35,874—chs. 18—cash 6 and Rs. 10,81,873—chs. 15—cash 5, respectively. The total rentals for 1102 cannot now be fixed as all the shops have not been sold.

(*d*) For the 1100-1101 contract, there were 25 arrack shops and 88 toddy shops in the Minachil taluk. For the next contract, they are 24 and 86, respectively.

(*e*) and (*f*) A deputation was received by the Excise Commissioner at Minachil. The deputation wanted that some of the shops in and about the town of Minachil, *viz.*, toddy shops Nos. 26, 47 and 48 and arrack shop No. 12, should be removed from their present sites. The Excise Commissioner inspected the localities concerned and found that their sites required no change.

(*g*) There were no shops for which bidders were not forthcoming. But the bids for 1 arrack shop and 8 toddy shops were too low. They were not therefore sold at the auction.

(*h*) 8 toddy shops.

(*i*) and (*j*) In view of the answer to part (*g*), these questions do not arise.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): As regards the latter portion of part (*c*), I wish to know the amounts that are actually ascertained at present?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): In respect of shops already sold, information has to be called for from the Excise Commissioner.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Am I to understand that the member cannot now answer my question?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I cannot furnish an answer now.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): In view of the answer given to parts (*e*) and (*f*) I wish to know whether the Excise Commissioner ascertained the opinion of the people of the locality before coming to a decision?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I am not able to say what enquiry he made before coming to a decision.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): On what grounds did he base his decision?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I do not know.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Was not the Excise Commissioner aware that the opinion of the people of the place was for abolishing these shops?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The member will please address the Excise Commissioner on that matter when he is in possession of the House.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Are not the Government aware that the people of the locality had already represented to the Excise Commissioner that the shops should be changed from that place?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): That is clear from the answer. It is true that there was a complaint in the matter.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Are the Government now unable to supply reasons for that?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): This question was the subject-matter of discussion during the general discussion on the budget and the Excise Commissioner made the position clear during that discussion.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Are the Government in a position *at present* to say on what grounds the Excise Commissioner based his decision?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The Excise Commissioner himself explained the matter in detail during the general discussion on the budget. So, I do not consider it necessary that I should re-state the grounds.

Mr. P. V. Abraham, Teacher, Model School.

232. **MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether one Mr. P. V. Abraham has been appointed in a permanent vacancy, in the Model School;

(*b*) whether one Mr. P. K. Subrahmanya Aiyar had been acting in that vacancy and, if so, for how many years;

(*c*) whether the Head Master of the Model School and the Principal of the Training College reported favourably about Mr. P. K. Subrahmanya Aiyar's work;

(*d*) the qualifications of the two officers; and

(*e*) whether Mr. P. V. Abraham had applied to the Principal for the post?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) No.

(*b*) Yes; for about 17½ months.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) Mr. P. V. Abraham is a B. A., L. T., and Mr. P. K. Subrahmanya Aiyar is a B. A. (Hons).

(*e*) No.

Mr. N. Koshi, Store-keeper, Stamp Manufactory.

233. **MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether Mr. N. Koshi who was appointed acting counter on Rs. 16 in the Stamp Manufactory in Chingam 1100, had any appointment in any other department prior to his appointment in the Stamp Manufactory;

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly